GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1627
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2007
SUPPLY OF SUB-STANDARD COAL TO POWER PLANTS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various coal companies are supplying sub- standard coal to the Thermal Power Plants;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any complaint in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof, Company-wise; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against these companies for supplying sub-standard coal?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a)to(c): Sometimes complaints are received from power houses against the poor quality of coal supplied by subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited (CIL). Details of the complaints received by CIL, company-wise is given as under:-

S.No.	Name of the Company	Number of Complaints
1	Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	16
2	Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)	11
3	Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)	73
4	Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL)	0
5	Western Coalfields Limited (WCL)	19
6	South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL)	20
7	Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)	13

The above complaints of 152 rakes is against despatches of about 110.02 million tonnes i.e. about 0.05% by weight and slightly more than one complaint per million tonnes of despatch. Thus the number of complaints are extremely small.

(d): CIL has been advised from time to time to take remedial actions in respect of specific complaints. CIL has also taken following initiatives to improve the quality of coal:-

i) Selective mining of bands of greater than 1 meter thickness.
ii) Appropriate positioning of OB and coal benches to avoid contamination.
iii) Scrapping/cleaning of coal benches before blasting.
iv) Installation of metal detectors/magnetic separators over running conveyors before coal loading.
v) All the major projects having high capacity coal handling plants to despatch sized and uniform quality of coal to suit the requirement of the consumers.
vi) Establishment of well equipped laboratories at all the projects for regular quality assessment.
vii) Arrangement for joint sampling and 3rd party sampling with consumers, based on which consumers are compensated.
viii) Shale picking, if any, at mine face, stocks sidings and from the wagons.